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THE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF BURKE. By John MacCunn, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy in the University of Liverpool. London: Edward Arnold, 1913. Pp. vi, 272.

This is not a book about which it is possible to say much in a review. And that not, of course, out of any disrespect to the author, but because Professor MacCunn has performed the task he has set himself about as well as it could be done. He has collected all the evidence which is scattered through the voluminous published works of Burke, and skillfully welded it into a whole, showing convincingly that Burke really had a consistent and systematic political creed, even though he never formulated it explicitly even, perhaps, to himself, and that his views on particular political questions were all formed under the influence of this creed. As far as the performance of this task goes, Professor MacCunn's work is open to no serious criticism.

All that we can say is that on some subjects we should have liked more. It would, perhaps, have been out of place for the author to have given us more of his own views on the subjects discussed, though when he does give them to us, as in his reflections on Democracy in the last chapter, they are so suggestive and illuminating that no one would have objected to more of such intrusions. But a more serious deficiency is the lack of a complete historical background for Burke's own views. We want a completer account of the political situation, of the different forces at work, of the views that excited Burke's antagonism, and of the effect he had on subsequent political thinking. Burke was so much the product of his age, his views were formed so much under the stimulus of immediate practical controversies, that a complete analysis of the spirit and situation of the time seems particularly called for in his case. But such a criticism does not detract from the real value of the book. As far as it goes, it is really complete.

I have noticed one misprint. On page 119, in the fifth line, "undetermined" is clearly a mistake for "undermined."

The University, Manchester.

G. C. FIELD.

THE YEAR-BOOK OF SOCIAL PROGRESS FOR 1913-14. London: Thomas Nelson & Sons. Pp. 595.

This annual, now in the second year of its existence, is a work which should be in the hands of all who are interested in

social reform. The year 1912-13 was an eventful period for Great Britain in respect to legislation affecting the lives of the working classes. It saw the passage of a number of important acts,—the Shops Act, the National Insurance Act, and the Coal Mines (Minimum Wage) Act, which, extorted by a combination of miners threatening to cut away the basis of our national life, extended the principle of the minimum wage to the chief staple industry of the country; it witnessed the beginning of insurance against unemployment, and of the decasualization of labor by the operation of the Board of Trade Labor Exchanges; and it was a period of widespread industrial unrest accompanied by a general rise in wages. Hence, Prof. W. J. Ashley, in the introduction which he contributes, has been able to write an exceptionally interesting general summary of the main movements in the field of social progress. The bulk of the book consists of a round dozen of more detailed essays on such subjects as the Census of 1911, Land and Housing, Wages and Cost of Living, Education, Pauperism and National Insurance. In each case facts and statistics are presented in a convenient form; the matter is well selected and well arranged, and theories are avoided. The index might perhaps with advantage be fuller. The volume, as will be seen, is concerned solely with social progress in Great Britain. It is to be hoped that in time Messrs. Nelson may see their way to enlarging their scope and providing us with a yearly record of legislative and philanthropic activity in the principal countries of the world, for, as a work of reference, such a volume would be a weapon of great value in the cause of the ethical advance of humanity.

SYDNEY WATERLOW.

London, England.

SOCIAL POWERS: Three Popular Lectures on the Environment, the Press, and the Pulpit. By Sir Henry Jones, LL.D., Litt.D. Glasgow: James Maclehose & Sons, 1913. Pp. 114.

The difference between the written word and the spoken word strikes you with great force in reading these lectures. Sir Henry Jones's radiant and inspiring personality makes it impossible for a lecture by him to be dull to listen to; the man is so much greater than his doctrines that even platitudes, from